

DiVincenzo launches pilot partnership to prevent child abuse

Newark—Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. launched a partnership today, April 14th, with The New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect, and Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey to promote child safety.

During a press conference held at the Hall of Records, DiVincenzo issued a proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month as part of the national Blue Ribbon Campaign. He also announced the County's plans to establish a new prevention "pilot," a statewide model that will help raise public awareness about child abuse and neglect.

"These new community outreach initiatives will allow the County to take proactive steps to create safety nets for the vulnerable families we serve and help to ensure that they do not slip through the cracks," DiVincenzo said. "Recent tragedies raised our awareness about the importance and kind of commitments we must all make at every level to intervene, and prevent child abuse. This is everyone's responsibility."

Through this new partnership with Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey, the County will be the first County in New Jersey to establish a prevention "model" that is aimed at developing prevention programs, educational materials and resources to promote child safety initiatives, DiVincenzo said.

Developed by the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect, this statewide pilot will be implemented by the nonprofit organization prevent Child Abuse New Jersey in conjunction with the Essex County Department of Citizen Services.

"This is an important opportunity to serve as advocates for our children and families in need," said DiVincenzo, explaining he wants to make sure that the County departments assisting at risk have children information that will direct them to the appropriate agencies.

"An event like this puts child abuse prevention in the forefront," said Colleen Maguire,

Special Deputy Commissioner for Children Services for the New Jersey Department of Human Services, who attended the press conference. "It is important for leaders to step up to the plate and exercise leadership like the County Executive has. I'm certain with the level of commitment demonstrated today we will make sure reform happens in the future."

Maguire said she is looking to other counties to follow Essex's lead. She also commended DiVincenzo for taking steps to reinvigorate such vehicles as the Essex County Human Services Advisory Council and establishing a subcommittee on child abuse.

"What this partnership does is put Essex County at the center of recognizing that everybody has a role to play in keeping our children safe in our communities," said Janet F. Rosenzweig, Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey. "Everyone at every level of government and from all walks of life can do something to support our families and help them raise healthy children," she noted during the press conference.

Each year, more than three million children nationwide are reported to child protective agencies as alleged victims of child abuse and 40,000 cases are in New Jersey, according to Rosenzweig.

As part of the new prevention model, Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey will work with the County and the Nicholson Foundation, a nonprofit philanthropic organization partnering with the County, to revamp and expand program services and to ensure that materials are available to all segments of the community, she said.

"Although the County doesn't possess statutory responsibility for child protective services, we can help to serve as the eyes and ears, and the watchdog to identify situations which hold the potential to result in abuse and neglect," said Sheila Oliver, Director of Essex County's Department of Citizen Services and brought into the protective services system.

See CHILD ABUSE on page 7

2003 Jersey City Carnival Rolls Out!



The Jersey City Carnival Committee, spearheaded by Cheryl D.B. Murphy will honor winners at the upcoming gala fund-raiser. Murphy called on all friends and supporters of Jersey City Carnival to come and celebrate the Carnival winner's. "We are very proud and grateful of the people who make and play mas in Jersey City Carnival," she says. "As a former masquerader, I'm well aware of the time and effort involved in bringing a costume to life. Moreover, I hope that people will come out to have a good time as we kick-off Carnival 2003," she says, adding, "The Jersey City Carnival bandwagon is on the road. Let's get ready to roll." (See story on page 7)

Trend shows significant difference between Black and White teen TV viewing habits

WASHINGTON, DC — Teens are watching less TV today than they were a decade ago. 'flee percentage of adolescents watching only one hour or less of television per weekday increased between 1991 and 2001. Estimate; increased across the board from 20 to 27 percent among 8th graders; from 29 to 36 percent among 10th graders; and from 38 to 44 percent among 12th graders.

When students are watching television excessively, they are less likely to be spending time doing homework or reading, participating in after school activities, or being engaged in other intellectually stimulating activities. Students who watched six or more hours of television each day scored lower, on average, than other

students on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) mathematics assessment. Likewise, eighth graders who watched more than five hours of television per day had the lowest average mathematics scores. This was found in all countries participating in the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) in 1995.

The Watching Television indicator on the Child Trends Data Bank includes the following data:

•Black students are more likely to watch television for long hours on weekdays than white students (62 percent of black 8th graders watched four or more hours of television, compared to 22 percent of white 8th graders).

•White students are almost three times more likely than black students to watch only one hour or less of television per weekday.

•The percentage of students who watched one hour of television or less per weekday increased in each grade level from 20 to 27 percent among 8th graders, from 29 to 36 percent among 10th graders, and from 38 to 44 percent among 12th graders,

•The percentage of 8th, 10th and 12th graders who watched four or more hours of television per weekday declined slightly between 1991 and 2001 (from 36 to 33 percent among 8th graders, from 28 to 23 percent among 10th graders, and from 23 to 21 percent among 12th graders).

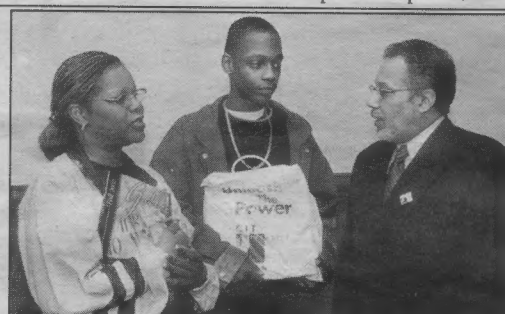


Students honored at Vocational Tech Education Week — Pictured (left to right) Kyle Williams from Plainfield; Freeholder Vice Chair, Lewis Mingo and Jonas Cleveland from Plainfield.

Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders joined the national celebration of Vocational Education Week by honoring students and educators from the Union County Vocational Technical Schools for the vital role they play in the area's educational system. More than 1,100 students from Union County attend the new full-time Union County Vocational Technical High School and the four-year Magnet High School, all located in Scotch Plains.



Founder's Day celebration — Caldwell College recently celebrated Founder's Day with a campus wide celebration to honor Mother Mary Joseph Dunn, O.P. (not pictured) who founded Caldwell College in 1939 and served as its first president of the Board of Trustees. Pictured with current President Sister Patrice Werner, O.P., Ph.D., (center), receiving awards for 10 years of faithful service are front row, from left, Patrick Sime, Ph.D. of Clifton, associate professor of mathematics and computer science; Roxanne Knott-Kuczborski of Caldwell, academic advisor; Sister Patrice, Judith Melillo of Lincoln Park, assistant manager, accounts payable and Maria Arrechea of Harrison, housekeeper. Back row, from left, Pam Aubry of North Caldwell, administrative assistant, registrar's office, Lori Harris Ransom, J.D. of South River, associate professor of business, Catherine Koo, Ph.D., associate professor of biology and The Rev. John Davis, O.P., Ph.D. of Caldwell, associate professor of theology/philosophy.



Students come to NJCU Open House — At New Jersey City University's "Spring Open House," Dr. Carlos Hernandez (right), president of the University, greeted Jersey City residents Khashif Barnett, a senior at Saint Anthony High School who plans to major in business administration, and his mother, Michelle West, an NJCU alumna who is assistant principal of Jersey City Public School Number 15. NJCU's "Spring Open House" featured campus tours, financial aid and admissions sessions, workshops, and an "Information Fair" on the undergraduate and graduate programs offered by NJCU's College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education, and College of Professional Studies, as well as various University support services.



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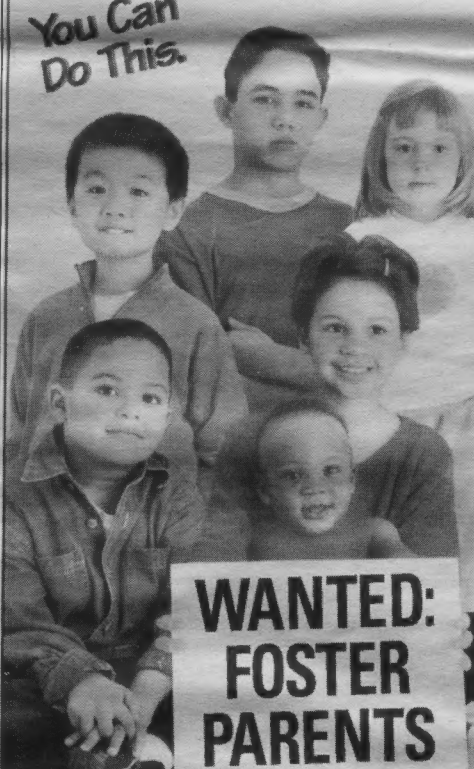
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National Briefs

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE NAMES INTERIM LEADER

(Special to the NNPA)-The National Urban League has named Milton J. Little Jr. the organizations interim president and CEO. He will replace Hugh B. Price, who announced his resignation last fall. Price's last day with the organization was Friday.

Little was the league's executive vice president and chief operating officer, a position he has held since 1997. His appointment was confirmed by the executive committee's board of trustees.

Little, a graduate of Morehouse College and Columbia University, will be responsible for the leadership and advancement organization. Before joining the National Urban League, was former vice president for foundation programs at Lucent Technologies, and a former vice president for health and humans programs at the AT&T Foundation.

U.S. PRISON POPULATION SWELLS WITH BLACK MEN

(Special to the NNPA)-About 12 percent of African-American men between ages 20 and 34 are incarcerated, an all-time high, according to a new report released by the U.S. Justice Department.

The said report said that among Black males in their early 20s and 30s, 12.9 percent were in prison or jail, compared to 4.3 percent of Hispanics and about 1.6 percent of White men.

Last year, about 596,400 Black males between the ages of 20 and 39 were incarcerated. The report estimates that 28 percent of all Black men will have spent some time behind bars over the course of their lifetime.

"The proportion of young Black men who are incarcerated has been rising in recent years, and this is the highest rate ever measured," Allen J. Beck, chief prison demographer for the Bureau of Justice Statistics, told reporters.

According to the report, the number of prisoners in the United States surpassed the 2 million for the first time last year, peaking at about 2,019,234. Two-thirds of them were in state and federal facilities, while the remainder were in local jails.

And for the first time, the number of inmates in the federal prison system, 161,681, surpassed that of those held in state systems.

NAACP President challenges lack of gun control

New York -- Kweisi Mfume, president and CEO, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), testified recently in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York that the proliferation of handguns that kills thousands of African Americans, particularly young people, is partly "the fault of the government for not enforcing existing laws and the fault of the gun industry for not self regulating the sale and distribution of handguns."

Mfume spoke during a historical lawsuit brought by the

NAACP to make gun makers and wholesalers better regulate the sale and distribution of handguns. NAACP lawyers argued that industry leaders could track more accurately negligent gun distribution and illegal weapons used in crimes. The NAACP lawsuit does not seek monetary gain, but to hold the gun industry liable for the proliferation of guns supplied to the unlawful underground market. "Long before I got to the Association, I realized [the proliferation of illegal handguns] was a problem," Mfume said. He said that as a member of

Congress and a Baltimore City Councilman, "I got tired of going to teenage funerals and consoling mothers whose children had been killed with a handgun."

Mfume said the "fear of violence and handguns is so high that people are afraid to come out and to organize" to rid the community of illegal handguns. He outlined in court the several programs run by the NAACP to dissuade young people from violence. This includes the "Stop the Violence, Start the Love" campaign that was started in New York City. He said 400

NAACP Youth Councils conduct programs aimed at conflict resolution without violence.

Mfume said outside of the courtroom that it is "disturbing that after three years of litigation, there are efforts in the Congress to make null and void what we're trying to do here today." He continued to urge Congress to reject H.R. 1036, a bill that aims to stop all pending legal action against the gun industry. In 2000 alone, firearms killed more than 28,000 people in the United States. More than 10% of these people (3,012) were children.



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Editorial

New State Test

NJ ASK
Needs to
Give Some
Answers

The State plans to implement a new test next month for third and fourth graders in public schools. New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) will replace the highly criticized Elementary School Proficiency Assessment (ESPA) developed during the Whitman administration. While the new test, like the old, is promoted as necessary to raise student achievement, the new like the old, fails to link testing to instructional delivery and improved student achievement. With as much testing as New Jersey inflicts on children, we should have the highest performance in the country rather than our ranking at the bottom of the barrel.

New Jersey's fixation on testing, testing and more testing is a substitute for getting at the bottom of the real issue of how we increase achievement and performance for all children, especially the large number of children who attend urban schools. New Jersey's testing mania is cloaked in the notion that by introducing more difficult tests you impact instruction. Thus better teaching leads to higher performance of children. We agree with this assumption, which we need to produce a more effective and efficient instructional delivery system; and, one that will significantly raise the achievement of all students. However, rather than continuing to mask the debate of underperformance of some schools and entire districts, which by the way consistently failed basic skills tests, around the need for tougher tests, we need to examine needs school by school, district by district. Too many variables account for underperformance, some say underfunding is the issue, other say poverty is the issue, yet others say its race.

In reality there has been a failure by the State and public to honestly look at how we can maximize the achievement of children in urban schools. NJ ASK needs to give some answers.

Anti-War, Affirmative Action Movements: To what End?

By: Ron Walters

It is just possible that come 2004 George Bush will no longer be in the White House? It looks more and more like he will.

He is closing the distance between the war in Iraq and his high popularity ratings with the approaching electoral season. That is to say, the time between the dynamics of the war and the election is getting shorter, such that Bush could be running as the Commander in Chief as the elections get under way, unless the war winds down in a hurry.

The fallout from the war will still be on people's minds as they try to turn their attention to the campaign. In fact, they may have a great deal of trouble paying attention to elections with the reconstruction of Iraq going on, the occasional killing of an American taking place and the constant threat of terrorism here.

This was the scene in the 2002 election cycle, with the

U.S. bombing Afghanistan and Americans on terror alert at home. So, Karl Rove, the president's chief political strategist, told politicians to "run on the war" and run on the president's handling of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The result was that the Republicans routed the Democrats.

Therefore, I wonder if the folks who oppose the war have made the link between their mobilization and the upcoming elections. In one sense, George Bush's high ratings will not fall unless there emerges an effective counter-politics to drives them down. We can wait and pray that his ratings fall under the heavy weight of the negative economy, as happened to his father in 1992. However, the progressive movement can make a deliberate decision to join the two issues.

The anti-war movement geared up in an attempt to stop the war using massive demonstrations that resulted in thousands of people in many cities coming out into

the streets. In fact, so many mobilized in San Francisco that Mayor Willie Brown, pleaded with people to stop coming because they were using up precious resources.

Behind the anti-war activity has come the pro-affirmative action movement that has similarly turned out thousands of Black students who demonstrated at the Supreme Court in Washington. I sensed in this demonstration that there is a vast untapped potential for spreading the momentum to other areas of the country; many expressed their feelings that this was their generation's Civil Rights Movement.

These movements have been relatively effective at turning out thousands of committed people around the country. As such, it has taken a central coordination, training for direct action, legal assistance, logistical coordination, economic resources, and many other elements that are common to political campaigns.

The question is, if Karl

Rove is smart enough to use the war to mount a campaign to re-elect George Bush, aren't those who oppose Bush's policies just as smart in using these campaigns to mobilize against his re-election?

So the strategic question is what can be done to link the two by increasing the political content. Increasing the political content means developing public consciousness about a president who would send Black and Brown boys off to fight an illegal war in the Middle East for special interests, while at home cutting veterans benefits by \$28 billion for the next 10 years and instructing the solicitor general to oppose Michigan's affirmative action plans.

The answer: use the same tools, heighten the contradiction.

Ron Walters is Distinguished Leadership Scholar, director of the African American Leadership Institute and professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland-College Park.

Is Syria next?

By: Bill Fletcher Jr.

Hold onto your hats! We may be walking into yet another war. That's right. Barely had the war in Iraq begun to subside when the Bush administration began making very ominous threats to Syria. It is starting to sound a lot like spring 2002, in fact.

Various U.S. administrations have had a contentious relationship with Syria, which has, at various times, supported anti-Israeli military groups, including some accused of terrorism. Yet, after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the United States, the Syrian government—by the admission of the Central Intelligence Agency—cooperated with the United States in opposition to the Al Qaeda clerical fascist/terrorist organization. Nevertheless, various representatives of the Bush administration, including the president, have made threatening sounds about the alleged activities of the Syrian regime.

We need to watch this carefully and not get suckered again.

Consider: The Bush administration is alleging that the Syrians have supplied Saddam Hussein with weapons and volunteers; that the Syrians may have allowed

Iraqi leaders to flee to Syria; and most unsettling, that the Iraqis may have moved alleged weapons of mass destruction into Syria. The problem with all of this is the same problem that we confronted prior to the invasion of Iraq: Where is the proof?

There is every reason to be suspicious of these allegations by the Bush administration. Just as with the alleged ties between Saddam Hussein and Al Qaeda, allegations of an Iraqi/Syrian connection lack any accurate historical context. There has been a long and very tense relationship between the Syrian and Iraqi governments. In the Iran/Iraq War, Syria sided with Iran. In 1991, Syria stood against Iraq. In the lead up to the war with Iraq, Syria last fall voted in favor of the U.N. resolution, though they have been on record as against a military attack on Iraq.

What the Bush administration seems to have learned from the Iraqi crisis, however, is that a U.S. president need not prove anything; it is sufficient to assert and reassert a basic point—regardless of its validity—in order for it to be treated as truth. After a while the U.S. media will simply treat the assertion as an undisputed fact and ridicule anyone who takes an alternative point

of view, or even asks a question. The lead up to the war with Iraq had all the pomp and circumstance of a stage play, but little substantive evidence. In fact, Hans Blix, the United Nations' chief weapons inspector, just recently noted that the United States and Britain had quite apparently decided a long time ago to start a war with Iraq, with little interest in letting the inspections process work. I wish that Blix had stated this publicly prior to start of the war. Blix's comment confirms that the lead up to the war was about show, rather than substance.

Thus, in the aftermath of the defeat of the organized Iraqi military, we find ourselves in an atmosphere of triumphalism, with the Bush administration threatening Syria, slightly more subtly threatening Iran, and who knows what is happening with North Korea. For the people of the United States, we must continue to ask questions and resist the impulse to simply march lock step in support of whatever the administration advances.

In the lead up to the invasion of Iraq, the majority of the people of the United States had obvious doubts about the sanity of an invasion, yet they held those doubts and gave their support,

despite the fact that the majority of the world's nations and peoples openly opposed the planned aggression.

Does it not matter to us that billions of voices were raised in opposition to the policies of this government? Are we so gullible that we will allow the cynical use of the U.S. flag and the notion of patriotism to blind us to the actual and long-term consequences of the actions of this reckless administration?

The situation in Iraq is far from resolved, but the test of our own sanity and humanity may be fast upon us if it is up to this administration. Rest assured that this administration will find a multitude of ways to describe real and perceived threats, as well as to disingenuously use the name of "human rights" to grab our attention and gain our support for further acts of aggression.

How does the saying go? Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me...

Bill Fletcher Jr. is president of TransAfrica Forum, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit educational and organizing center formed to raise awareness in the United States about issues facing the nations and peoples of Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America. He also is co-chair of the anti-war coalition, United for Peace and Justice.

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It's ringworm season — tips to protect children from ringworm

NAPS — Parents and caregivers of African American children may be able to protect their kids from a condition that can lead to scarring and hair loss-ringworm.

Contrary to its name, ringworm is not actually a worm, but a common, highly contagious fungal infection of the scalp. It's spread through direct contact with anything that comes in contact with the infected area of the scalp and hair such as brushes and combs, hats, bedding, etc. The condition is most common in African American boys age 3 to 9, but has been diagnosed in females, infants, toddlers, older children and adults.

Ringworm often appears in the hair as dandruff like flakes, or as scaly patches on the child's scalp. However, the symptoms can sometimes be hard to see or difficult to recognize.

To help protect your children from ringworm, doctors recommend the following:

- Teach children not to share brushes, hats, hooded sweatshirts or any other items that come in contact with the head.

- Tell children to let you know if their scalp itches or if they notice dandruff like flakes.

- Wash items that touch the hair like combs, brushes, hats, etc. in hot soapy water.

- Avoid tight braids and cornrows which may stress the scalp.

If you notice signs of ringworm on your child, it's important to see a doctor or dermatologist right away. The condition is easily treatable with oral medications such as Grifulvin V, (griseofulvin oral suspension), which is the only oral suspension anti-fungal product approved by the FDA for tinea capitis (ringworm of the scalp) in children. The drug is the most prescribed treatment for tinea capitis by pediatricians and dermatologists.

It is important to know that tinea capitis cannot be treated effectively with medications

like shampoos or creams, which are placed directly on the scalp, because the fungus grows inside the hair shaft. This is why the hair may become fragile and breaks off. Grifulvin penetrates the hair shaft and is therefore able to get rid of the ringworm.

The medication has an active ingredient that has been used to treat ringworm for over 50 years, and because it's available in pleasant tasting liquid formation, it's generally easier to give to children. Grifulvin V is proven safe, effective and well tolerated in pediatric patients.

For more tips and information call 800-426-7762.

Health Briefs

WHY BLACKS MAY BE MORE PRONE TO DIABETES

A group of key genetic markers responsible for increased insulin resistance are much more common in black children than white children and may account for the greater incidence of diabetes in blacks.

The more African genetic markers a child had, the less that child's body responded to insulin, resulting in more insulin in the blood, the study found. This study suggests genetic factors may influence pancreas function, the liver's ability to get rid of insulin, or both.

The researchers plan to use additional genetic markers to identify the specific genes associates with insulin sensitivity and acute insulin response.

ZOCOR OK FOR HEART PROBLEMS

The anti-cholesterol drug Zocor (simvastatin) is effective in reducing the risks of heart attacks, strokes and the need for bypass surgery and angioplasty — even in people whose cholesterol isn't above normal levels, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration says in approving new labeling for the drug.

However the FDA reminds people who take Zocor to be aware of any muscle pain, which may indicate a serious side effect called rhabdomyolysis, a muscle breakdown disorder. Symptoms can begin as fatigue, fever, nausea and vomiting, severe muscle pain, weakness and tenderness, and end up as cardiac arrest or heart attack.

HIV TESTING EXPANDED

U.S. health officials hope to reduce the spread of AIDS by encouraging much more HIV testing, including screening all pregnant women for the virus.

The stance, announced Thursday, marks a shift from the earlier official position of recommending testing only for people considered at high risk of the disease, such as intravenous drug users and those with multiple sex partners.

The move was spurred largely by the recent arrival of a 20-minute HIV test that disease officials believe can be used to reach people at the margins of the nation's health-care system.

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Carnival preparations are underway in Jersey City

Jersey City—Winners of Jersey City Carnival 2002 will be celebrated and awarded with prizes at a grand Carnival kick-off fund-raiser and dance later this month. This award presentation takes place on Saturday, April 26th 2003 at the elegant Bamboo Garden Restaurant.

Last year's Jersey City Carnival was heralded as one of the best in the event's seven year history. In addition to some of the veteran winners, several new faces were seen in the winners' circle. Receiving honor as the band of the year is Firebird with their presentation Mama Dis Is Mas. The King and Queen of the Band titles went to Kurt Robinson portraying Water and Erica Jackson for her colorful costume called Broadway respectively.

The Jersey City Carnival Committee, spearheaded by Cheryl D.B. Murphy are pleased to honor all these winners at the upcoming gala fund-raiser. Murphy called on all friends and supporters of Jersey City Carnival to come and celebrate the Carnival winner's. "We are very proud and grateful of the people who make and play mas in Jersey City Carnival," she says. "As a former masquerader, I'm well aware of the time and effort involved in bringing a costume to life. Moreover, I hope that people will come out to have a good time as we kick-off Carnival 2003," she says, adding, "The Jersey City Carnival bandwagon is on the road. Let's get ready to roll."

Music for the carnival kick-off will

be supplied by Road Warriors. In addition to music and dining, there will be free giveaways and door prizes as added attractions.

Jersey City Carnival is unique in that it attracts close to 75,000 individuals who not only recognize the richness and splendor of the Caribbean culture, but who fully support the exposure of a foreign culture that will ultimately bring about a better understanding of the Caribbean man. This year's Jersey City Carnival takes place on Saturday, July 26, 2003.

The Bamboo Garden Restaurant is located at 349-351 West Side Avenue Jersey City. For tickets and further information contact 201-434-0476 or 201-332-6322.

Child abuse prevention partnership formed

Continued from page 1

tem, the County will do what we can to support the families as they progress," Oliver said. "With partnerships like this, we will be able to provide additional training and resources for our staff. We also want to let our parents know there are resources available to help prevent child abuse."

Oliver also stressed that the new initiatives will help improve the existing dialogue between the County and State agencies serving the same clients.

During the press conference, William Walsh, Director of Corporate

Responsibility at Public Service Electric and Gas, presented the County Executive with a \$2,500 check for the new prevention pilot. The corporate donation will be matched by a donation from the Nicholson Foundation be used for resource and educational materials to raise public awareness about child abuse.

"We are behind Essex County one hundred percent to create resources and to offer parents and families the support needed to provide healthy, nurturing and safe homes for their children," Walsh said.

BAND OF THE YEAR:

- 1st Place: Firebird: Mama Dis Is Mas
- 2nd Place: T&M Productions: Mas In Yuh Mas
- 3rd Place: The Haitian Association of Jersey City: A Taste of Haiti

KING OF THE BAND

- 1st Place: Kurt Robinson: Water
- 2nd Place: Lloyd Roberts: Harmony
- Honorable Mention: Paul Moya: Jersey City Carnival Dancing Logo

QUEEN OF THE BAND

- 1st Place: Erica Jackson: Broadway

Female Character of The Year:

- Pauline: Le Belle Creole
- Honorable Mention: Maureen Hartman: Mother Earth

JUNIOR QUEEN OF THE BAND

- Ivana Williams: Fertility of the Crescent Moon

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- Bubbler Sound System

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- Ivana Williams: Fertility of the Crescent Moon

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Entertainment News

E Briefs

—Kim Bowman

Snoop Dogg and bodyguards shot at



Unknown assailants fired shots at rapper Snoop Dogg and his entourage last Thursday as they were traveling in Los Angeles, according to reports. Police reports dispatched that one of the rapper's bodyguards — a police officer — was shot in the melee, but Snoop escaped without harm. The rapper was traveling with a fleet of vehicles, which consisted of seven bodyguards and two state police officers. The wounded off-duty police officer was admitted to the hospital and then released on April 11. Snoop was subsequently questioned by the police, but no charges are expected to be levied against the 31-year-old rapper.

Man charged with identify theft of rapper Slick Rick

Steven Glenn, 28, of Raleigh, N.C., was charged with the identity theft of Slick Rick Walters. Glenn attempted a series of fraudulent transactions & actual impersonations. "He received hospital care, sent out express mail packages & answered his own phone under Rick's name," Rick's spokesman Bill Adler said. Glenn was arrested & charged with various fraud & theft charges.

Julia angry with husband over pregnancy constraint



A furious Julia Roberts stormed out on her husband Danny Moder after a huge battle over a pregnancy disaster, family conflicts and jealousy according to People Magazine.

The 7-month marriage has been strained by Julia's inability to conceive a child.

Julia was reportedly jealous of Moder's relationship with young actress Kirsten Dunst, how friends finally smoothed things over between Julia and Danny... and more.

Jim Carrey's ex-wife wants more child support



According to reports, Jim Carrey's ex wife is asking a judge to increase her child support payments, claiming that the couple's daughter Jane cannot live on a mere \$10,000 a month. In court papers, Melissa

Carrey claims that \$10,000 per month "is not sufficient" — as it will not provide for her own bodyguards, a personal trainer or exercise equipment. "Jane does not have personal security... which I believe is important to have at this time," says Melissa in court papers, adding that the 15-year-old is "often followed around" by photographers.

Melissa also contends that she needs more money to sign Jane up for additional recreational activities, stating she currently pays for the child to attend classes in drama, music recording — but would also like her to have her own personal ski instructor and attend horseback riding classes.

She says she also needs additional funds to pay for Jane to be professionally photographed and also to hire a talent agent, since she plans to have a career in the entertainment industry. Jim and Melissa Carrey divorced in 1995. Jane is their only child together.

Designer Calvin Klein to treat drug problem



After an incident at a New York Knicks game, fashion designer Calvin Klein announced that he will seek treatment for a drug problem.

At a recent Knicks game, Klein walked onto the basketball court, just as Latrell Sprewell was about to throw a pass, and started talking to the player. Security escorted Klein back to his seat, and there was no further incident. In 1988, the designer was admitted to the Hazelden Institute in Minnesota for treatment for alcohol and prescription drug abuse.

Black, White, and in Color: Television and Black Civil Rights

Black, White, and in Color: Television & Black Civil Rights/ By Sasha Torres/ Princeton University Press/ \$16.95

"The civil rights movement played a crucial role in the emerging practices and self-understanding of network information workers — the makers of news, documentary, and public affairs programming — during the 1950s.

The fates of the movement and information genres in their formative periods were intertwined with each other by the simultaneous emergence of the civil rights movement and television. Tele-journalism, obviously, needed vivid pictures and clear-cut stories; less obviously, it also sought political and cultural gravitas. For its part, the civil rights movement staked the moral authority of Christian nonviolence and the rhetoric of American democracy to make a new national culture; to succeed, it needed to have its picture taken and its stories told."

—Excerpted from Chapter 1

Although the slaves had ostensibly been freed by the 13th Amendment and had been technically granted equal rights by the 14th, it actually took another century for blacks to get the courts to enforce those Constitutional guarantees. And according to Sasha Torres, Associate Professor of Media Studies at the University of Toronto, African-Americans might still today be denied the right to vote, riding the back of the bus and living with "White Only" water fountains, pools and public accommodations, were it not for the advent of TV.

For in *Black, White, and in Color: Television and Black Civil Rights*, Ms. Torres argues that it was the widespread TV coverage of the civil rights movement, which embarrassed white America and the courts into a grudging capitulation. After all, African-Americans asking for equality was nothing new.

The NAACP, the Communist Party and other progressive organizations had repeatedly petitioned the Supreme Court, challenging it to live up to the much ballyhooed US belief that "all men are created equal." But the Court always ignored that empty motto, choosing instead to re-enforce the status quo via the racist "separate but equal" rationale, a legal sleight of hand that denied blacks the vote and the whole panoply of Constitutional protections



which permitted the Jim Crow system of segregation and subjugation to flourish well into the 1950s.

Then, during the early days of television, while most were dismissing the popular new invention as an "idiot box," they were simultaneously missing the medium's incredible potential. For TV was demonstrating an uncanny ability to transmit live and unedited events, which previously had been first, filtered and reported on from the establishments point of view.

According to the author, a symbiotic relationship evolved between the burgeoning civil rights movement and the burgeoning television industry.

The two grew, feeding on each other. Blacks needed TV exposure to publicize their plight, while TV needed riveting dramatic content to increase ratings.

Torres, in her enlightening book, even quotes from correspondence to illustrate the behind the scenes collaboration which transpired between the networks and certain civil rights leaders.

In one letter, Peggy Whedon, the producer of the national, Sunday morning show "Issues and Answers" offers Dr. Martin Luther King air time, but on the condition of exclusivity. "It has been too long since you have been with us," she begins, "and we would like to plan towards a program with you for the time in April when you start your plan of civil disobedience in Washington, DC. Issues and Answers offers the ideal format and best TV time slot for a presentation by you to the American people."

Dr. King's personal secretary subsequently responded in writing on his behalf, accepting the stipulations attached to the invite by promising that, "He will not appear on any similar program at least thirty days before or after your engagement."

Detailed documentation of this type helps *Black, White, and in Color* make its convincing case in crediting TV for its pivotal role in the success of the civil rights movement.

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 1D7 MAE HOLMES: BAGS, BOXES...
 1G9 LIONEL ELLIOTT: TV, BOXES...
 1M2 FLORENCE STEPLIGHT: MATT SET, BAGS,
 ETC...
 1M5 LATIFAH FREEMAN: TV, BOXES, ETC...
 1AA3 JOSEPH SEARCY: BOXES, ETC...
 1BB3 IRIS ARROYO MARTINEZ: DESK, CABI-
 NETS, ETC...
 1CC2 KAREN EDWARDS: MATT SET, BEDROOM
 SET...
 1CC4 KIEYEITHA WARD: WASHER/DRYER, LR
 SET, TV...
 1CG7 ROSALIE ZICARO: LR SET, FURNITURE...
 1EE1 KIM REASON: FURN, MATT, ARTWORK...
 1115 ANNA REED: BOXES, FURNISHINGS...
 3A11 IRIS ARROYO MARTINEZ: DESK, TEXT-
 BOOKS...
 3C9 VELINDA COLLINS: BR SET, LR SET,
 ETC...
 3C20 RAHEEM RASHADA: LR SET, CLOTHES...
 3C36 JACQUELINE BAILEY: FRIDGE,
 CLOTHES...
 4B6 MARIA VIEIRA: WASHER/DRYER, TV...
 4B9 ADRIAN PATTERSON: COMPUTER, CDS,
 ETC...
 4B19 CHICHINA SMITH: 2 TVs, BOXES, ETC...
 4F14 EDNA KEARNEY: FURNITURE, ETC...
 STA9 DONNA HOLDER: LR SET, HOUSE-
 WARES...
 STD6 TIMOTHY R JONES: TV, FURNITURE...
 STD14 RHONDA MURPHY: TV, FURNITURE...
 STD19 JAMES SESSOMS: COUCH, CAR SEAT,
 ETC...
 STF5 CARLA EVANS: MATTRESS, BIKE ETC...
 STF20 EDIE LOUITT: HOUSEWARES, ETC...
 STH7 SYLVIA BARNETT: MATTRESS, BOXES,
 ETC...
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BID ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed bid proposals will be received by the New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation ("NJSCC") at their offices at P.O. Box 991, One W. State Street, Second Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625, Attention: Anna Marie Sanford, Procurement Project Officer for the following work:

Contract No.: NE-0001-P01
 Contract Name: Demolition & Site Preparation
 District: Newark
 County: Essex
 No. of Schools: 1 (Science Park High School)
 Estimated Package Cost Range:
 \$ 4,000,000.00

Brief description of work: The work involves building hazardous material abatement and demolition of the Marcus Garvey School and other residential properties on the proposed site for the New Science Park HS. The scope of work also includes the removal of USTs and contaminated soil.

This work will be bid and constructed as a single overall contract (one lump sum, for all trades).

Bid proposals for the above work will be received from bidders registered with the Division of Revenue and Department of Labor, and classified by the Department of Treasury, Division of Property Management and Construction and the NJSCC in the following trade(s):

Demolition Contractor with a DPMC Classification of C021 who will be required to also have the following DPMC Specialty Trade(S) or required to engage a subcontractor classified in the following DPMC Specialty Trade(S) if not possessed by the Demolition Contractor.

Asbestos Removal: C092

Bid proposals must list the names of the firms who meet the above classification(s).

Bids will be received until **May 6, 2003 at 2:00 PM (local time)** at which time the bids will be publicly opened and the lump sum base bid price submitted by each bidder will be read. Any bid proposal received after this date and time will be returned unopened.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held as follows:

Pre-Bid Date: April 18, 2003
 Pre-Bid Time: 10:00AM (local time)
 Pre-Bid Place: Marcus Garvey School
 131 13th Avenue
 Newark, NJ 07103

In addition to the mandatory pre-bid conference, all bidders on this project will be required to complete a project rating evaluation form and submit the completed project rating evaluation form by 2:00 PM (local time) on April 23, 2003 to:

New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation
 1 West State Street
 Second floor
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625
 Attention: Anna Marie Sanford

Copies of the project evaluation forms are available from the PMF or the NJSCC.

Plans and specifications may be inspected or obtained for a deposit of \$100.00 for each set of documents, during regular business hours, from:

Parson Brinckerhoff
 Two Gateway Center, FL 18
 Newark, NJ 07102
 973-353-7601

Checks shall be made payable to the NJSCC.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17-27), pertaining to affirmative action and employment opportunity.

The NJSCC reserves the right to waive any non-material defects or to reject any or all bids.

For further information on NJSCC, please visit us at "www.njsc.com".

\$66.01

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF MORRISTOWN LEGAL NOTICE

The Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown, New Jersey, has prepared its annual plan in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Redevelopment and provisions of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. The plan states the Housing Authority's Mission Statement and Goals. It further explains the objectives to achieve the goals. Included as part of the annual plan are the Housing Authority's relevant policies.

The plan will be available to the public from May 12, 2003 through June 12, 2003 and can be examined during normal business hours of the Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown, 31 Early Street, Morristown, NJ. A Public Hearing will also be held on June 12, 2003 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the aforementioned address soliciting comments on the plan.

Upon completion of the 45-day review period, the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the Town of Morristown and the Resident Advisory Board will approve the plan for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

David Gardner
 Executive Director
 \$23.62

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Maintenance Worker (Groundskeeper/Janitor)

The Housing Authority of the Borough of Princeton (HABOP) has an immediate opening for a full-time maintenance staff person. Primary responsibilities are: cleaning vacant units, community rooms and other common areas. Maintaining grounds, some landscaping, leaf and snow removal. Experience in groundskeeping, and landscaping preferred but not required. Starting at \$10.50 per hour & benefits with pay increase after six-month review.

Fax resume to: (609) 921-1167 or call (609) 924-3448 HABOP, 50 Clay Street, Princeton, New Jersey, 08542.

All inquiries must be received by April 18, 2003.

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Calendar

Community

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Elizabeth — Union County Drug Court Program presents The Pact with keynote speaker Rameck Hunt, MD, Co-author of "The Pact" at the Main Courthouse, 2 Board St., 5th fl. at 12:30 p.m. For more info call 908-659-3496.

Plainfield — United Trust Community Education Center will host a workshop on Certified Nurses Aid from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For more info call 908-753-7364.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 — 27

Edison — The Super Pet Expo returns to N.J. Convention Center at Raritan. For more info call 732-417-1400 or visit www.njexpocenter.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Come and participate in the 17th Annual Lincoln Tunnel Fun Run Walk beginning at USAT&F throughout the south tube of the Lincoln Tunnel from NY to NJ and back. For more info call 1-800-650-7665.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Jersey City — New Jersey City University presents Emmy Award-Winning Journalists Sandra Guzman at 3:00 p.m. in room 202 of Hepburn Hall, 2039 Kennedy Blvd. Admissions is free. For more info call 201-200-3426.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Plainfield — Plainfield Board of Education will host its organization meeting at Plainfield High School at 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29 — MAY 4

Newark — UniverSoul Circus is coming to Newark on its 10th Anniversary Tour. For more info call ticketmaster at 212-307-7171.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Newark — The City will host its the 16th Annual Observance Ceremony in remembrance of horrors of war, genocide occurring and which have occurred around the world at 12:00 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 950 Broad St. For more info call 973-733-8004.

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Mountainside — The Two Hundred Club of Union County will hosts its Spring Valor Awards Luncheon at L'Affaire Restaurant, Rt. 22 Eastbound at 11:30 a.m. For more info call 908-322-2422.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

New York — Celebrate Mother's Day with the world famous Harlem Gospel Choir at B.B. King's Blues Club & Grill with an all-you-can-eat-buffet. For more info call 212-997-4144.

Heartbeat

ONGOING

Kearny — West Hudson Hospital offers women's alcoholic anonymous seminar at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 201-955-7556.

Irvington — Irvington General offers women's HIV/AIDS support group at 10:00 a.m. For more info call 973-275-0210.

Newark — WIC Program at UMDNJ offers a variety of support services to participants. Appointments are strongly recommended. For more info call 973-972-3416.

Newark — Beth Israel Medical Center offers free Breast Cancer Patient Support Group. For more info call 973-926-7609.

Belleville — Clara Maass Medical Center will offer complimentary blood pressure screenings every fourth Monday of the month. For more info call 1-800-CLARA-MAASS.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

Newark — Columbus Hospital will host a memory loss lecture for those living with Alzheimer's in the hospital auditorium from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. For more info call 973-268-1442.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Belleville — St. Barnabas will host a free seminar on knee and hip pain at 10:30 a.m. For more info call 973-450-2213 or 973-284-4974.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

East Orange — The Blood Center of NJ will offer a community blood drive at East Orange General Hospital, 80 South Munn Ave from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Belleville — Clara Maass will host a free seminar about pain and treatment at 10:30 a.m. For more info call 973-450-2213.

Newark — The Wynona M. Lipman Child Advocacy Center will host a free child abuse prevention conference at Newark Museum from 9:00 - 4:00 p.m. For more info call 973-926-7846.



FRIDAY, MAY 9 THRU 11 — New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark presents the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at 8:00 p.m. in Prudential Hall. For more info call 1-888-GNJAC.

ONGOING — APRIL 31

Newark — A computer based 12-week GED course covering subject areas: Writing, Reading, Social Studies, Science and Mathematics, with a curriculum which covers life skills, job readiness and computer instruction, will be offered from Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at La Casa de Don Pedro, 39 Broadway. For more info call 973-481-4713.

FRIDAY, MAY 9 — JUNE 6

East Orange — The East Orange YMCA, 100 No. Arlington Ave will sponsor a caregiver support workshop from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. For more info call 973-673-5518 or Pat Yannacci at 201-460-1600.

Business

ONGOING

Newark — The Women's Center of Essex County College is sponsoring a series of seminars, support groups during Spring 2003 Semester. For more info call 973-877-3395.

MONDAY, APRIL 21 — 22

New Brunswick — Rutgers University will host a business and medical ethics conference with special guest speak Governor James McGreevy. For more info call 973-353-5879 or visit <http://pruethics.rutgers.edu>.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

New Brunswick — New Jersey State Bar Foundation will host a free seminar on "Landlord/Tenant Rights" from 7:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. For more info call 1-800-FREE-LAW.

MONDAY, MAY 5

Newark — City News and City Marketing Group presents its 5th Annual City Business Expo 2003

at the Newark Airport Marriott from 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. For more info call 973-642-4400.

Artz

ONGOING

Newark — Maize Restaurant presents Sweet and Low Thursdays featuring vocalist Denise Hamilton from 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. For more info call 973-639-1200.

ONGOING — MAY 18

Millburn — The Paper Mill Theatre presents the play Camelot with music by Frederick Loewe. For more info call 973-376-4343.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

New York — SOB's presents Brand Nubian in concert at 9:00 p.m. For more info call ticketmaster at 212-307-7171.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

New Brunswick — State Theatre presents The Temptations in concert at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 732-246-7469.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Asbury Park — 50 Cent and The Clipse in concert at the Convention Hall at 7:00 p.m. For more info call ticketmaster at 212-307-7171.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Newark — Community Theatre in Morristown presents The Boys Choir of Harlem at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 973-539-8008.

New Brunswick — The State Theatre of New Brunswick presents

Barry Manilow's Copacabana musical at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 732-246-7469.

Morristown — Community Theatre presents The Boys Choir of Harlem in concert at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 973-539-8008.

SATURDAY, MAY 17 — 18

Newark — Newark Symphony Hall presents The McDonald's GospelFest 2003 with special guest Donnie McClurkin, Vickie Winans, Cissy Houston, etc. For more info call 973-643-8009.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

New York — Erykah Badu performs in concert at the Apollo Theater in Harlem at 8:00 p.m. For more info call ticketmaster at 212-307-7171.

Newark — NJPAC presents Jazz for Teens Final Concert showcasing young performers in the Victoria Theater at 2:00 p.m. For more info call 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

FRIDAY, MAY 30

New Brunswick — The State Theatre presents Saturday Night Fever The Musical for three performances at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 732-246-7469.

Religion

ONGOING

Newark — Greater Service Fellowship Church invites you to Sunday morning service at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions, come get the answers. For more info call 973-848-1711.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Summit — The Concord Singers will present their Spring Concert at the Calvary Episcopal Church on Woodland Ave at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 973-514-1412.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

New York — McDonald's GospelFest 2003 comes to Madison Square Garden at 7:30 p.m. For more info call ticketmaster at 212-307-7171.

Mail your calendar events and photographs at least two weeks in advance to:

**City News Publishing
111 Mulberry St., TH-C
Newark, NJ 07102 or
Fax to: 973.642.5444**

SARS: What's going on in New Jersey

New Jersey Advises Against Non-Essential Travel in Asia

TRENTON - With the spring holiday break approaching, Commissioner of Health and Senior Services Clifton R. Lacy, M.D., today urged New Jersey residents to avoid non-essential travel to certain parts of Asia because of the threat of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

"Travel to mainland China, Hong Kong, Singapore and Hanoi, Vietnam, should be avoided unless it is essential, because of the risk of acquiring SARS in these areas," Dr. Lacy said, re-emphasizing current travel advice from the federal Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC), the U.S. State Department and the World Health Organization (WHO). "The CDC has issued no recommendations against traveling to Canada."

To date, 166 suspected SARS cases have been reported nationwide, including three in New Jersey. These three individuals had traveled to Asia, and there have been no reported cases of SARS transmission to people in contact with the three individuals. The WHO is reporting 2,781 cases in 19 countries/jurisdictions, including 111 deaths. There have been no deaths in the United States.

The first reported New Jersey suspect case, a 36-year old North Jersey female, was released from a North Jersey

hospital on March 17 and has fully recovered. The second case, a 30-year-old North Jersey woman, was seen by her physician as an outpatient on March 30, was never hospitalized and is home recovering. The most recent New Jersey suspect case, a 36-year-old South Jersey female, was hospitalized in Pennsylvania on March 31 and is in stable condition.

According to the CDC, laboratory testing of blood serum from the first New Jersey case revealed that the 36-year-old woman is one of five suspected cases nationwide who have tested positive for infection with a novel coronavirus. This virus has been implicated as the most likely cause of SARS thus

far. The positive laboratory tests are not conclusive evidence that the organism is the cause of SARS. Additional specimens are being tested to learn more about the coronavirus and its link with SARS. The results of the special testing conducted by CDC were reported this week in the publication, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is a form of atypical pneumonia occurring in a person who has traveled to a country with an outbreak or come in contact with a person with SARS. SARS begins as an influenza-like illness, with such symptoms as rapid onset of high fever, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, dry cough and shortness of breath. X-rays may show pneumonia and/or other abnormalities. Laboratory tests may show low numbers of white blood cells and platelets. Some cases worldwide, but only one in the United States, have involved respiratory failure requiring mechanical ventilation.

The World Health Organization has recommended that people traveling from certain SARS-affected areas be screened before they board airplanes. Upon arrival in the U.S., travelers receive a travel

alert developed by the CDC. The travel alert reminds passengers to monitor their health for at least 10 days, see their health care provider if they get sick, and report their travel history.

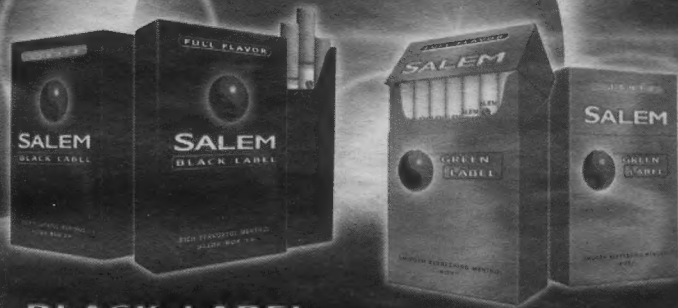
Anyone who gets sick while traveling in an area affected by SARS should limit contact with others and avoid further travel. To find a local health care provider, contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Suspected or probable SARS cases have been reported to the WHO from the following countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Taiwan, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Ireland, Malaysia, Romania, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam.

DHSS has held weekly teleconferences with New Jersey hospitals and public health agencies to provide updates, explain how to identify potential cases, and detail appropriate reporting mechanisms. Health officials in New Jersey have been instructed to immediately report any suspected cases by telephone to both DHSS and local health officials. The DHSS maintains close communication regarding SARS with the CDC and New Jersey's public health and health care communities.

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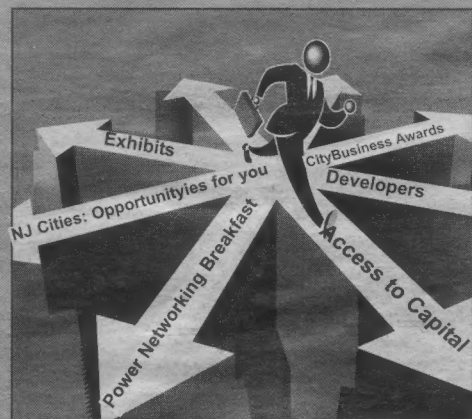
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